

**Department of Natural Resources
Timber Report
First Quarter Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14**

Background

Michigan's state forest system was originally certified under both the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) third-party forest certification standards in December 2005.

Forest certification protocols require public participation in forest management planning and forest operations. The Department of Natural Resources (Department) compartment review process has been audited by both the SFI and the FSC and has been recognized as a key public participation mechanism that meets requirements for forest certification.

The Department's investment in forest certification strengthens Michigan's forest products sector. Certification is essential in order for primary wood producers in Michigan to have continued access to national and international markets.

First Quarter FY 2013-14 Timber Treatments

State forest planning and activities, including timber treatments, are conducted within the framework of SFI and FSC forest certification principles and standards. Timber treatments in a given year are based on decisions made two years prior to the treatments through the compartment review process.

The FY 2013-14 plan of work currently identifies 73,953 acres for timber sale preparation that were approved through the compartment review process. Managers have developed draft work plans to prepare all 73,953 acres.

Timber sale preparation is done by Department staff and through timber marking contracts with private consultants. In the first quarter of FY 2013-14, 4,790 acres of timber sale preparation-marking contracts were awarded. Contracts for an additional 5,501 acres are expected to be in place later in the fiscal year.

The Department submitted 10,332 acres of timber sales in the first quarter, with an estimated volume of 149,000 cords. Of 115 sales offered in the first quarter, 89 sold on their initial offering. This 23% no-bid percentage is down from the fourth quarter of FY 2012-13, when 31% of sales received no bids. However, the first quarter no-bid percentage of 23% is significantly higher than the whole of FY 2012-13, when about 14% of sales received no bids. Of the 26 sales that received no bids in the first quarter, 9 have since sold.

FY 2013-14	Total sales offered in the quarter	Offerings with no bids	Percent (%) of sales that were no-bid
1 st quarter	115	26	23%